

Energy conscious? You can still enjoy holiday lights

You don't have to pull the plug on holiday lights to save energy. Here are some tips from the Oregon Office of Energy that will help even the most energy-conscious enjoy the season.

- If you are purchasing new lights, look for energy saving miniature lights that generate less heat and use less electricity than larger bulbs. The larger size bulbs (labeled C-7 and C-9) use 5 to 7 watts per bulb. Strings of 25 large outdoor lights can cost two to three times as much in electricity as a string of 100 miniature lights.

- Even better, are the new "light emitting diode" or LED holiday lights that use very little electricity and are also cool to the touch. They use less energy, saving around 90 percent on holiday lighting costs and are longer lasting.

- Limit the time you have your holiday lights turned on. Turn them on in the evening and remember to turn them off when you go to bed or, better

yet, put them on a timer.

- Check all your lights for damaged sockets, fixtures and cords. Discard any that appear defective.

So light up with the holiday spirit, but don't forget about energy savings when you do.

Use caution when driving during the holidays

Adverse weather conditions can be prevalent this time of year, particularly at higher elevations. Being prepared for adverse road conditions will help you safely reach your destination.

When traveling during the holiday season, check your vehicle's antifreeze, make sure

you have good windshield wipers and they work properly, make sure you have plenty of fuel to reach your destination, have a good battery and carry jumper cables in case the battery goes dead, keep emergency supplies on hand, such as a small shovel, warm

clothes, blankets, drinking water and a working flashlight, make sure other safety features of your vehicle are working properly, such as safety belts, light bulbs, horn and mirrors and carry traction tires or devices should be carried and used when needed or required.

BANKS SCHOOLS HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Banks High School/Junior High will hold a Band and Choir Concert on December 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Banks High School Cafeteria.

Santa's Breakfast will be hosted by Banks Junior High, December 14 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Banks High School cafeteria.

Banks Elementary School Winter Concert will be December 11 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the BES cafeteria.

Banks schools will hold an All School Sing Along in the BES Cafeteria at 9:00 a.m. on December 19.

VERNONIA SCHOOLS HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

Washington/Lincoln Elementary School Holiday Program will be held December 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the Washington Grade School gym.

Mist School's Holiday Program will be December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Deadline nearing for mandatory Boater Education

An estimated 7,000 people across Oregon will need to get their Boater Education Card before operating their powerboat in 2003. But before they can qualify for their card, they need to complete an approved boater education course.

"As the deadline approaches, we want to make sure that people know what their options are in Columbia County," said Kendra Callahan, Mandatory Boater Education Program Coordinator for the Oregon State Marine Board. "There aren't many classes being offered in some of these rural areas yet, but there are other options that are easy, convenient and popular with boaters."

The Mandatory Boater Education Program was passed by the 1999 Oregon Legislature with the goal of reducing accidents, injuries and property damage on Oregon's waterways. According to Callahan, educated boaters are five times less likely to be involved in boating accidents than non-educated boaters. 2003 is the first year of the phase-in. More than 47,000 boater education cards have been issued to date.

Options to qualify for your card include taking an on-line

course. "If you have Internet access at home or at your school or library, you can take one of a couple approved courses linked at our website: www.boatorregon.com

If you are an experienced boater, you can challenge the exam at your local Marine Patrol office. If you can find no local options, call us." Internet courses and equivalency exams range in price from free to

\$15.

The requirement to take a course and carry a boater education card is being phased-in based on age beginning with 30 and younger in 2003, 40 and younger in 2004, 45 and younger in 2005, 50 and younger in 2006, 60 and younger in 2007, 70 and younger in 2008 and all boaters in 2009.

Creative Impulse Espresso Bar & Deli

HOT, ICED & BLENDED DRINKS & TEA
PASTRIES • MUFFINS • COOKIES • BAGELS
SOUPS • CHILI • CHILI DOGS

We thank you for your support and invite you to join us for drawings and fun during our

5th Anniversary Celebration

★ Tuesday, December 10 ★



Tanning by Appt. or Walk-in
Nails by Appointment

WINTER HOURS:

Mon 5a-1p • Tu-F 5a-3p • Sa 7a-4p • Su 8a-1p • Deli open 11a
854 BRIDGE ST., VERNONIA • 503-429-9011

Critter Clippers Pet Grooming

Full Service Bathing & Grooming

Now Available: 8:00 am - 8:00 pm

Monday - Thursday

Early Drop-off OK!

Call for Appointment

Brandy Lindsey, Groomer

503-703-7334

503-429-3842



MIKE'S CHRISTMAS TREES

YOU CHOOSE • WE CUT

Many varieties to choose from

\$1⁰⁰ OFF any tree
w/2 cans of food for
Vernonia Cares

Open Weekends Only

Cut Trees Available
Monday thru Friday

65736 Nehalem Hwy. N.
(Hwy. 47)

10 miles north of Vernonia



VERNONIA INN

Enjoy a quiet weekend with us.

FULL SIZE, IN ROOM

\$55⁰⁰ HOT TUBS \$80⁰⁰
REG. ROOM \$45⁰⁰

Queen Beds • Private Bath • Separate Entrance
Cable TV • Phones • Handicapped Access

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL

1-800-854-9494 / 503-429-4006

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE

900 MADISON AVE., VERNONIA, OR 97064

Just one block off scenic Nehalem River Hwy. (Oregon 47)